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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Update: American Hearing Research Foundation and American Cochlear Implant Alliance
To Co-sponsor New Grant for FY2018**

Elmhurst, IL, April 20, 2017: In collaboration, the American Hearing Research Foundation (AHRF) and the American Cochlear Implant Alliance (ACI Alliance) announce a 2018 funding opportunity for research. A one-year grant of up to \$25,000 is being offered for purposes of planning a study on the societal cost of severe to profound hearing loss.

We invite investigators to explore and recommend a detailed plan for updating the seminal Project HOPE study published in 2000 (Mohr PE et al, The Societal Costs of Severe to Profound Hearing Loss in the United States, *International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care*, 2000;16(4):1120-35). This grant is intended to support the planning of a *future* study to address societal costs of severe-profound hearing loss.

Grantees may be scientists in the field of hearing loss, otolaryngologists, audiologists, speech language pathologists, economists, health care experts, or others with generic expertise in the topics. The topic lends itself to an interdisciplinary approach involving individuals working within and beyond cochlear implantation.

It was previously announced that the ACI Alliance/AHRF grant could be used to fund a study on quality of life provided by cochlear implantation. We are pleased to share that the ACI Alliance has secured separate additional funding for this type of study; the deadline applications was April 24, 2017. For more information, visit <http://www.acialliance.org/page/QOLMeasures>.

Applications for the 2018 ACI Alliance/AHRF grant should be submitted to AHRF via its online portal at www.american-hearing.org. Applications are due August 15, 2017. The recipient will be notified in early December. For more information about the ACI Alliance/AHRF Grant, visit <http://american-hearing.org/research-grants/>.

In addition to the review criteria available at the AHRF website, award selection criteria will include creativity, and the degree to which the proposal may advance access to cochlear implantation.

For additional information on the topic, please contact ACI Alliance Executive Director Donna Sorkin (dsorkin@acialliance.org). For guidance on the proposal process, please contact Joan Wincentsen at Joan@America-Hearing.org.

The [American Hearing Research Foundation](#) serves two vital roles: to fund significant research in hearing and balance disorders, and to help educate the public about hearing loss and balance disorders related to the inner ear. In addition to the AHRF/ACI Alliance grant, AHRF funds five to 10 research projects per year, with an average grant being \$20,000 or \$40,000. Since 2010, the Foundation has funded over \$1.2 million in research grants.

The [American Cochlear Implant Alliance](#) is a not-for-profit membership organization created with the purpose of eliminating barriers to cochlear implantation by sponsoring research, driving heightened awareness and advocating for improved access to cochlear implants for patients of all ages across the US.